

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ANKARA 06107 180457Z  
ACTION NASA-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 DODE-00 PM-05 L-03  
NSC-05 ERDA-05 OES-07 SS-15 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-07  
NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 /083 W  
-----076716 180459Z /10

R 160703Z AUG 77  
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8522  
INFO AMEMBASSY MANILA  
AMEMBASSY MADRID  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USE ANKARA 6107

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: TSPA, TU  
SUBJECT: SPACE SHUTTLE CONTINGENCY PLANNING

REF: STATE 134038

1. EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT US APPROACH TO TURKISH GOVERNMENT TO OBTAIN ITS AUTHORIZATION FOR USE OF INCIRLIK CDI AS EMERGENCY LANDING SITE FOR SPACE SHUTTLES SHOULD, AND CAN, BE KEPT ENTIRELY SEPARATE FROM POLITICAL ISSUES BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

2. ALTHOUGH AGREEMENT ON RESCUE OF ASTRONAUTS, RETURN OF ASTRONAUTS, AND RETURN OF OBJECTS LAUNCHED INTO OUTER SPACE, TO WHICH TURKEY IS A SIGNATORY, APPARENTLY DOES NOT BIND TURKEY TO PARTICIPATE IN A STANDING EMERGENCY PROCEDURE OF THE KIND NOW BEING ARRANGED, EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT TURKEY, AS SIGNATORY TO THAT AGREEMENT, WOULD BE PREDISPOSED TO USE OF INCIRLIK FOR THAT PURPOSE.

3. WE WOULD, IN FACT, SUPPOSE THAT TURKISH GOVERNMENT MIGHT EVEN BE FLATTERED TO PROVIDE ONE OF ONLY FOUR EMERGENCY SPACE  
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SHUTTLE LANDING SITES IN THE WORLD. TURKEY PRIDES ITSELF ON ITS CONTRIBUTIONS TO INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION AND IS SEEKING A SEAT ON THE COUNCIL OF THE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION IN RECOGNITION OF ITS CLAIM. WE BELIEVE THAT TURKISH GOVERNMENT WOULD VIEW TURKEY'S DESIGNATION AS A SPACE SHUTTLE LANDING SITE WITH SIMILAR PRIDE.

4. IN SHORT, EMBASSY DOES NOT KNOW OF ANY REASONS WHY US  
SHOULD NOT APPROACH TURKISH GOVERNMENT ON THIS SUBJECT. WE  
SUGGEST THAT APPROACH BE MADE SIMULTANEOUSLY IN WASHINGTON AND  
ANKARA, IN THE LATTER PLACE, AT A MIDDLE LEVEL WITHIN THE  
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.  
SPIERS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CONTINGENCY PLANNING, SPACE EXPLORATION  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977ANKARA06107  
**Document Source:** CORE  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** DG ALTERED  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION NASA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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